

Navigating Rural Health Resources

March 24, 2017

Conference Call #: (866) 620-7326
Access Code: 350-750-3156



Overview & Agenda

Our NRHR Webinar Purpose:

Highlight state and federal programs relevant to rural Kansas in hopes to connect our local providers and communities to useful resources and tools.

AGENDA/TOPICS:

- National Health Service Corps (NHSC) State Loan Repayment Program (LRP)
- Navigating NHSC Application System



Program Overview

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program (LRP) offers primary care medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health care providers the opportunity to have their student loans repaid, while earning a competitive salary, in exchange for providing health care in urban, rural, or frontier communities with limited access to care. The NHSC is administered by the Bureau of Health Workforce in the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Health Department and Health and Human Services.

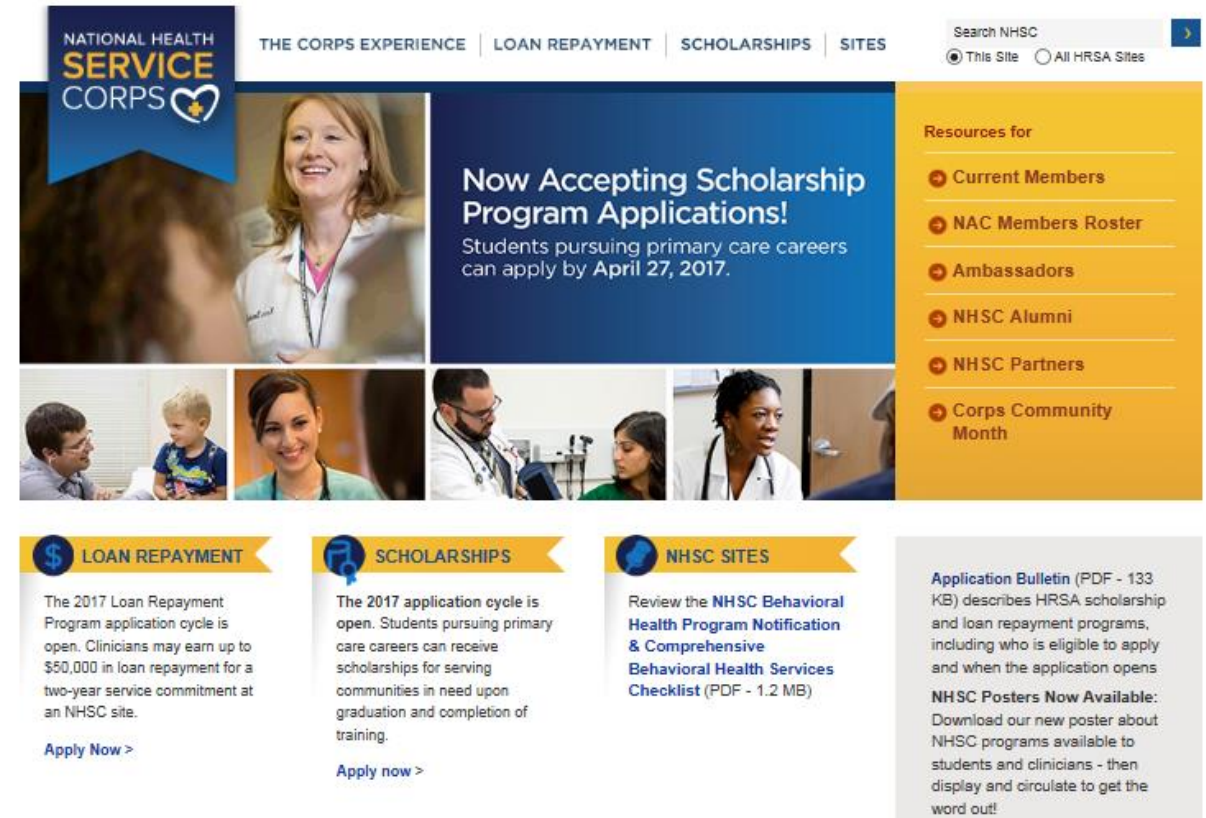
Webpages

Click on Sunflower to see information in textboxes.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Eligible Health Professions |  |
| Eligible Practice Sites |  |
| NHSC Award Selection Process |  |
| 2017 Key Program Dates |  |
| Information for Practice Sites | List of Approved National Health Service Corps Sites KS Map – NHSC-Approved Primary Care Sites KS Map – NHSC-Approved Mental Health Sites KS Map – NHSC-Approved Dental Health Sites |
| Program Guides and Toolkits | Guide to Becoming a NHSC Practice Site NHSC Scholarship Program Guide Corps Community Month NHSC Informational Webinar Recordings |

Office of Primary Care & Rural Health NHSC Page

NHSC Home Page



The screenshot shows the NHSC Home Page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: THE CORPS EXPERIENCE, LOAN REPAYMENT, SCHOLARSHIPS, and SITES. A search bar is on the right. The main banner features a woman in a white lab coat and the text: "Now Accepting Scholarship Program Applications! Students pursuing primary care careers can apply by April 27, 2017." Below the banner are several smaller images of healthcare professionals. On the right side, there's a "Resources for" section with links: Current Members, NAC Members Roster, Ambassadors, NHSC Alumni, NHSC Partners, and Corps Community Month. At the bottom, there are three columns: "LOAN REPAYMENT" (The 2017 Loan Repayment Program application cycle is open. Clinicians may earn up to \$50,000 in loan repayment for a two-year service commitment at an NHSC site. Apply Now >), "SCHOLARSHIPS" (The 2017 application cycle is open. Students pursuing primary care careers can receive scholarships for serving communities in need upon graduation and completion of training. Apply now >), and "NHSC SITES" (Review the NHSC Behavioral Health Program Notification & Comprehensive Behavioral Health Services Checklist (PDF - 1.2 MB)). On the far right, there's a section for "Application Bulletin (PDF - 133 KB)" and "NHSC Posters Now Available!".

Our Mission: To protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans.

Instructions

Questions are strongly encouraged!

We are here to help you.

To ask a question, use the 'Questions' or 'Chat' sections.

OR

simply unmute your phone.

We have setup several polls to help us modify this presentation to meet your specific needs. As they are launched, please answer polls quickly, under the 'Polls' section.

Click the arrow to open each section.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| ▶ Dashboard | ☐ ✕ |
| ▶ Attendees: 2 out of 1001 | ☐ ✕ |
| ▶ Polls (0/1) | ☐ ✕ |
| ▶ Questions | ☐ ✕ |
| ▼ Chat | ☐ ✕ |

POLL

I am/My clinic has a Provider wanting to apply for 2017 NHSC State Loan Repayment Program Cycle.

- Yes/True
- No/False

Eligibility for NHSC State Loan Repayment Program

All applicants must:

- (1) Be a U.S. Citizen (either U.S. born or naturalized) or U.S. National;
- (2) Be eligible for, or hold, an appointment as a commissioned officer in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service or be eligible for selection for civilian service in the NHSC;
- (3) Participate or be eligible to participate as a provider in the Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Programs, as appropriate;
- (4) Have a current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted health professional license, certificate or registration in the discipline in which he/she is applying to serve.

Eligibility for NHSC State Loan Repayment Program

To qualify for the NHSC LRP, applicants must either:

(1) be working at an NHSC-approved service site

-OR-

(2) have accepted an offer of employment at an NHSC-approved service site by the date they submit their application and will begin meeting the NHSC clinical practice requirements at the NHSC-approved service site(s) they selected when submitting their application, by July 18, 2017.

If the applicant's site has not yet been approved, the applicant is not eligible to apply for an LRP award.

List of NHSC-approved service sites: [NHSC Approved Site List Feb2017.pdf](#)

Becoming An Approved Site

NHSC clinicians must work at an NHSC-approved service site in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).

- Medicare Certified Rural Health Clinics
- State or Local Health Departments
- Federally Qualified Health Centers & FQHC Look-a-Likes
- American Indian Health Centers
- Community Mental Health Centers
- School-Based Clinics
- Mobile Units/Clinics
- Free Clinics
- Critical Access Hospitals (CAH)
- Community Outpatient Facilities
- Private Practices
- State & Federal Prisons

Becoming an Approved Site

To become an NHSC-approved site, entities must submit a NHSC Site Application which is reviewed and approved by the regional NHSC Offices.

There are set application periods for entities to apply and recertify to become approved practice sites, typically occurring the second and third quarters of each calendar year.

Our office has created a NHSC LRP guide that provides more detailed information. Click [here](#) to view.



POLL

Which area of healthcare would you/the Provider fall under?

- Primary Care
- Mental Health
- Dental

Service Commitment Requirements for All Providers

Full-Time Option:

2 years of *full-time* service (minimum 40 hours/week, 45 weeks/year) at an NHSC-approved service site. Full-time participants are allowed to spend no more than **35 full-time** workdays per service year away from the NHSC-approved site for vacation, holidays, continuing professional education, illness, or any other reason.

Half-Time Option:

2 years of *half-time* service (minimum 20 hours/week, 45 weeks/year) at an NHSC-approved service site. Half-time participants are allowed to spend no more than **35 half-time** workdays per service year away from the NHSC-approved site for the reasons listed above

Eligible Health Provider Types

| <u>Eligible Disciplines</u> | <u>Eligible Specialties</u> | |
|--|--|---|
| Physicians - Allopathic (MD), Osteopathic (DO) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Medicine • General Internal Medicine • General Pediatrics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geriatrics • Obstetrics/Gynecology • Psychiatry |
| Physician Assistants (PA) Nurse Practitioners (NP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult • Family • Geriatrics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health and Psychiatry • Pediatric • Women's Health |
| Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM) | N/A | |
| Dentists (DDS, DMD) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Dentistry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pediatric Dentistry |
| Dental Hygienists | N/A | |
| Licensed Clinical Social Workers Licensed Professional Counselors Health Service Psychologists Marriage and Family Therapists | N/A | |

Information regarding NHSC training and licensing/certification requirements for each provider discipline can be found in the [NHSC Loan Repayment Guidance document](#).

Primary Care Medical Providers

ALL PROVIDERS MUST HAVE: A current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted health professional license, certificate or registration in the State in which they intend to practice under the NHSC LRP.

| Eligible Disciplines | Eligible Specialties | |
|---|--|---|
| Physicians: Allopathic (MD), Osteopathic (DO) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Medicine• General Internal Medicine• General Pediatrics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geriatrics• Obstetrics/Gynecology• Psychiatry |
| Physician Assistants (PA) Nurse Practitioners (NP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adult• Family• Geriatrics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health and Psychiatry• Pediatric• Women's Health |
| Certified-Nurse Midwives (CNM) | N/A | |

See handout titled [LRP Application Guidance](#) for detailed information about education credentials and requirements.

Primary Care Medical Providers

NHSC requires each health professional/provider to spend a minimum number of hours per week providing direct patient care:

| Provider Type | Full-Time | Half-Time |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner working in a CMS-approved Critical Access Hospital | 16 | 8 |
| Physician with specialty in Obstetrics/Gynecology or Geriatrics | 21 | 11 |
| All Other Eligible Primary Medical Care Providers | 32 | 16 |

Remaining hours per week must be spent working at the NHSC-approved site.

Dental/Oral Health Providers

ALL PROVIDERS MUST HAVE: A current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted health professional license, certificate or registration in the State in which they intend to practice under the NHSC LRP.

| Eligible Disciplines | Eligible Specialties | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Dentists (DDS, DMD) | • General Dentistry | • Pediatric Dentistry |
| Dental Hygienists | N/A | |

See handout titled [LRP Application Guidance](#) for detailed information about education credentials and requirements.

Dental/Oral Health Providers

NHSC requires each health professional/provider to spend a minimum number of hours per week providing direct patient care:

| Provider Type | Full-Time | Half-Time |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Dentists with specialty in Pediatrics | 21 | 11 |
| All Other Eligible Dental/Oral Health Providers | 32 | 16 |

Remaining hours per week must be spent working at the NHSC-approved site.

Behavioral/Mental Health Providers

ALL PROVIDERS MUST HAVE: A current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted health professional license, certificate or registration in the State in which they intend to practice under the NHSC LRP.

| Eligible Disciplines | Eligible Specialties |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Physicians: Allopathic (MD), Osteopathic (DO) | • Psychiatry |
| Physician Assistants (PA), Nurse Practitioners (NP) | • Mental Health and Psychiatry |
| Licensed Clinical Social Workers | N/A |
| Licensed Professional Counselors | |
| Health Service Psychologists | |
| Marriage and Family Therapists | |

See handout titled [LRP Application Guidance](#) for detailed information about education credentials and requirements.

Behavioral/Mental Health Providers

NHSC requires each health professional/provider to spend a minimum number of hours per week providing direct patient care:

| Provider Type | Full-Time | Half-Time |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner working in a CMS-approved Critical Access Hospital | 16 | 8 |
| All Other Eligible Behavioral/Mental Health Providers | 32 | 16 |

Remaining hours per week must be spent working at the NHSC-approved site.

POLL

I am interested in learning more about requirements for School-based clinics OR Policies regarding Telemedicine.

☐ Yes/True

☐ No/False

Telemedicine

The NHSC will consider telemedicine as patient care when both the originating site (location of patient) and the distant site (NHSC-approved site) are located in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).

Both the originating and distant sites must meet the HPSA score requirements associated with the contract under which the applicant is applying to serve.

For more information, see pg. 26 of the [NHSC LRP Application and Program Guidance](#).

School-based Clinics

For providers working at an NHSC-approved school-based clinic, the NHSC requires that the school be open year-round with sufficient patient visits to meet the clinical service requirements, or the provider will be required to work at additional suitable NHSC-approved sites to meet the requirements.

Participants who fail to provide documentation to maintain compliance with requirements may be placed in default of the NHSC service obligation.

For more information, see pg. 26 of the [NHSC LRP Application and Program Guidance](#).

POLL

I would like assistance in/more information about navigating through the application portal.

- ☐ Yes/True
- ☐ No/False

Navigating BHW Portal: PROVIDER User

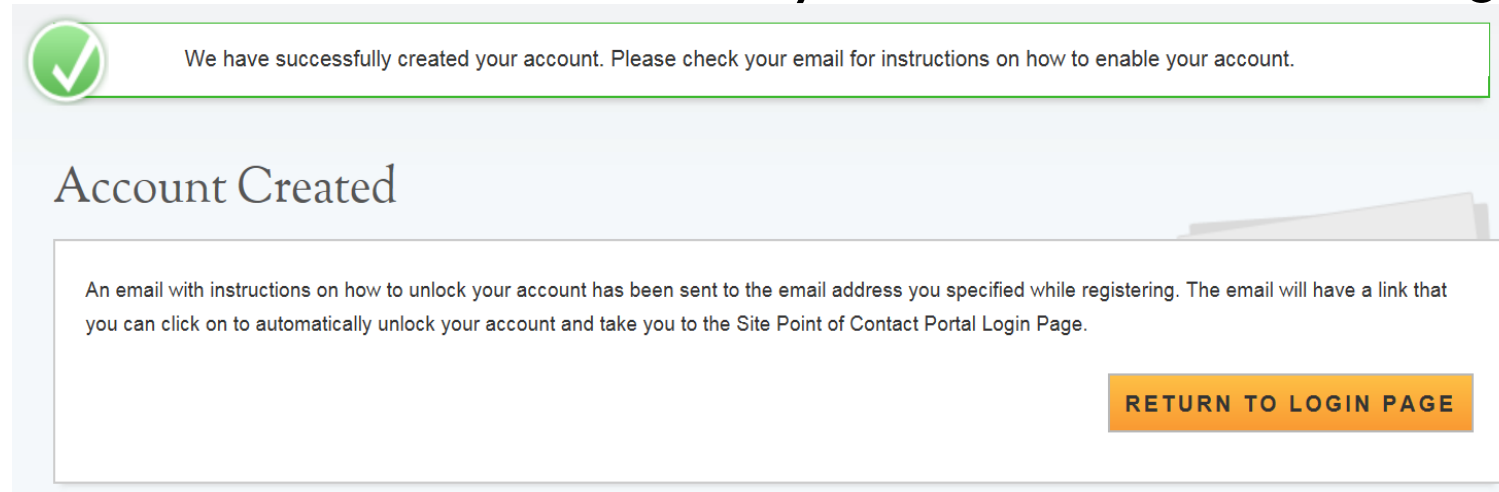
Applications are being accepted through 7:30 p.m. ET on Thursday April 6, 2017.

- Commit to submitting a CLEAN and ACCURATE application well before the deadline.
- Can reopen application to make changes BEFORE the deadline.
- No matter the type of error, corrections CANNOT be made AFTER the deadline passes!

If you haven't done so already, create an NHSC LRP Application Account at <https://programportal.hrsa.gov/extranet/application/nhsclrp/login.seam>

Application Tips

Once an account has been created, you will see the message below:

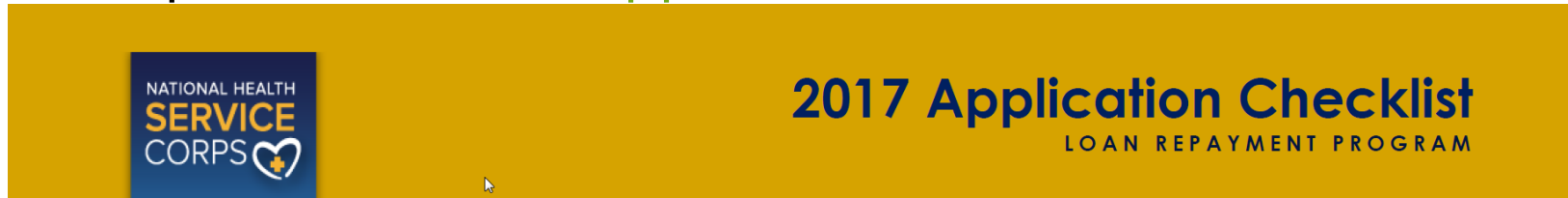


In order to **ACTIVATE** the account, check your email for an activation link.

- It may be a few hours before the email is sent.
- Be sure to check spam/junk folders if it does not come to your inbox.

Application Tips

Follow the steps in the 2017 Application Checklist:



Step 4: Eligibility - Your responses in this section will determine whether you meet the minimum requirements to qualify to submit an application. If any of your responses indicate that you do not qualify, you should review the 2017 APG to verify the results and make adjustments to your responses, if appropriate.

Step 5: General Information – Provide contact and general information, in addition to selecting the service/contract type for which you are applying.

Step 6: Discipline, Training & Certification – Identify the discipline/specialty for which you are licensed to provide clinical services, as well as the type of degree you received and when you received it. The options provided are specific to the current list of NHSC Loan Repayment Program approved disciplines and specialties. Pay close attention to the requirements for your discipline/specialty and select the options that accurately represent your degree, training, and certifications.

Step 7: Employment – Select your NHSC-approved sites from the list provided. The list is compiled of sites that are located in the state and city you provide, based on your discipline and specialty. Instructions are provided should the list not contain one or more of your sites.

Step 8: Employment Verification – Initiate the request to have your site(s) Point of Contact (POC) verify your employment, including the hours you work per week. The clinical practice requirements for your discipline/specialty and service type can be found in the 2017 APG and on NHSC website, at <http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/options.html>

Application Tips

Follow the steps in the 2017 Application Checklist:



2017 Application Checklist

LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Step 9: Loan Information – Submit your loans for approval. **Federally guaranteed/insured** loans can be submitted using either the Electronic Import (NEW!) or Manual entry options (only one (1)) option can be used per applicant). To take advantage of the newly developed electronic import option and access your Federal loan data directly from the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), you must first register and receive a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID); otherwise, you must use the manual method. You can register and receive your FSA ID, at <https://www.nsls.ed.gov/npas/pub/faq.htm>.

Private/Commercial loans must be submitted using the manual option. As with the electronic import option, you must gather account statements and disbursement reports prior to completing the application.

Step 10: Supporting Documents – Upload ALL required and supporting documents. It is advised you gather these documents prior to beginning the process, as some documents may require additional time to obtain from lending or training institutions.

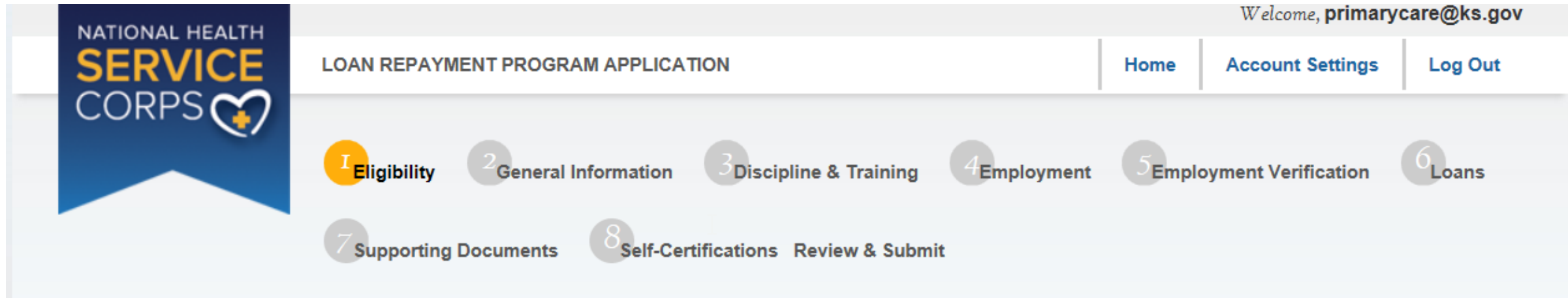
Required Documentation

- **Proof of Payment:** Verification of Appropriate Use of Award Funds (Previous LRP participants, only)
- **Disadvantaged Background & Exceptional Financial Need Form:** Verification of having come from a Disadvantaged Background or Exceptional Financial Need, available at <http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/dab.pdf>.

Step 11: Self Certification - Certify the accuracy of the responses and documentation you have provided and submit your application for review. The review of applications will begin after April 5, 2017. Notification of awards will occur throughout the review period. Notification of the FINAL status of applications will occur on or prior to September 30, 2017.

Application Tips

Allow yourself plenty of time to work through the eight steps of the application process:



Application Tips

Step 1: Eligibility

Approved – Eligible ✓

General Information

* required field

Note: If you have started a fiscal year 2017 application to other NHSC or NURSE Corps programs, the personal information you enter in this section, such as your name, address, date of birth, birth location, and Social Security number will overwrite the personal information you provided with the other applications when you select "Continue" at the end of this section.

If you are applying to serve in Puerto Rico or a U.S. Territory and would like to learn more about the NHSC LRP Zika Initiative, please read the [2017 NHSC LRP Zika Response and Preparedness Act Application and Program Guidance](#) or contact the BHW Customer Care Center at 1-800-221-9393.

APPLYING FOR

Application Type *
☐ Two Year Full-Time
☐ Two Year Half-Time

Please review the NHSC [Full-Time](#) and [Half-Time](#) Clinical Practice Requirements for your discipline/specialty to ensure that you meet the hourly and clinical service requirements for service under the NHSC. You will not be able to change your application type after April 6, 2017, the application deadline.

Not Approved – Not Eligible ✗

Applicant Name: Primary Care

Your application status is: **NOT ELIGIBLE**

Your application ID is: 374172

Application Deadline: **April 6, 2017 at 7:30 PM EDT**

Based on the answers you have provided in the previous section, you do not meet the 2017 NHSC Loan Repayment Program eligibility requirements. An abbreviated list of basic requirements is below:

- Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. National.
- Have a current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted health professional license, certificate or registration (whichever is applicable) in the State in which they intend to practice under the NHSC LRP.
- Not have a judgment lien on their property arising from a Federal debt.
- Not be in breach of a health professional service obligation, or in default on a prior service obligation.
- Not have a service obligation other than of a member of the uniformed service or member of a reserve corps that will extend past the deadline for meeting the NHSC clinical practice requirements (July 18, 2017).
- Meet the degree, training and certification requirements for this discipline and specialty, as defined in the 2017 NHSC LRP Application and Program Guidance.

Thank you for your interest in the NHSC Loan Repayment Program.

Application Tips

Select the site(s) where you will actually be providing direct-patient care and will meet the requirements for your discipline.

Select your NHSC-approved service site(s).

Note: You may see multiple sites with the same name but, different addresses. You must select the site(s) where you actually provide direct patient care and will meet the NHSC Clinical Practice Requirements for your discipline/specialty.

State or Territory

City

Matching Sites

| Site Name | Site Address | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| GraceMed Capitol Family Clinic | 1615 SW 8th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606-1633 | Add Site |
| GraceMed Highland Park Family Clinic | 2025 SE California Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66607-1443 | Add Site |

☐ Check this box if your site is not listed in the search results.

You must list each site where you work or will begin working before your application can be submitted. *

- ☐ Yes, all of my sites have been added.
- ☐ No, some of my sites are not yet added. I will come back to this section and add them before submitting.

Questions?



Resources for More Information

- Attached Handouts
- Office of Primary Care and Rural Health's NHSC page:
www.ksruralhealth.org
- National Health Service Corps Webpage:
www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/



- Webpage: www.ksruralhealth.org or www.ksprimarycare.org
- Office emails: ruralhealth@ks.gov or primarycare@ks.gov
- Staff contact info:

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